



**U.S. Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Prisons**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Inmate Death at FCI Yazoo City (Low)**

WASHINGTON, D.C.: On Thursday, August 6, 2020, inmate Benjamin Marquez tested negative for COVID-19 at the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) in Yazoo City, Mississippi. After complaining of increasing pain and breathing difficulties, he was transported to a local hospital on Friday, August 7, 2020, for evaluation and treatment. On Saturday, August 8, 2020, Mr. Marquez tested positive for COVID-19 and his condition subsequently deteriorated. On Wednesday, August 12, 2020, Mr. Marquez, who had a pre-existing medical condition which the CDC lists as a risk factor for developing more severe COVID-19 disease, was pronounced dead by hospital staff.

Mr. Marquez was a 49-year-old male who was sentenced in the District of New Mexico to a 60-month sentence for Distribution of 50 Grams or More of a Mixture of Substance Containing Methamphetamine. He had been in custody at FCI Yazoo City since January 30, 2019.

FCI Yazoo City is a Low security level facility that currently houses 1,613 male offenders.

The Bureau of Prisons will continue to provide daily updates and information on actions related to COVID-19 at [www.bop.gov/coronavirus/index.jsp](http://www.bop.gov/coronavirus/index.jsp)

Additional information about the Bureau of Prisons can be found at [www.bop.gov](http://www.bop.gov).

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